## OPPORTUNITY YOUTH NETWORK YEARBOOK 2017



#### Introduction

The Opportunity Youth Network (OYN) brings together business, government, foundation, nonprofit and youth leaders to reduce the number of Opportunity Youth in the country by one million every five years. The network is co-convened by the Forum for Youth Investment, the Aspen Forum for Community Solutions, and Gap Inc.

The Opportunity Youth Network works to:

- hold the field collectively accountable to the goal of reducing the number of Opportunity Youth by one million every five years
- continually take stock of progress in the field
- help align related efforts, and
- catalyze efforts where there are gaps.

To support the alignment of related efforts, OYN is releasing the first annual Opportunity Youth Network Yearbook at the Opportunity Youth Network's Annual Summit on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The Yearbook is designed to share the greatest successes by organizations in the field over the last year (November 2016-October 2017), and key activities planned for the next year (November 2017-October 2018) in the following categories:

- Launching or Expanding Place Based Initiatives
- Technical Assistance
- Youth Voice/Youth Engagement
- New Activities Related to Special Populations
- Data and Research
- Publications Being Released
- Communications Campaigns
- Policy and Advocacy Activities

It also includes a schedule of upcoming events, meetings and convenings.

The updates were all written by the organizations themselves, and have only been edited for brevity, consistency, clarity and to merge duplicate overlapping submissions.



100,000 Opportunities Initiative	The 100,000 Opportunities Initiative hosted two Signature Hiring Events in Dallas and Washington D.C. Thousands of youth were offered jobs on the spot by our employer coalition members committed to the success of our youth. In addition, 100,000 Opportunities cities backbone organizations in Phoenix, LA, Seattle, and Chicago continue to build partnerships with employers to create sustainable recruitment and retention programs for youth.
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color	The Alliance for Boys and Men of Color worked with partners to pass the following California state legislation. 1) AB 667 mandates that alternatives to suspension are communicated to a student during informal conference upon suspension. 2) AB 699 protects the information of undocumented students and establishes model policy for responding to ICE information and/or interview requests of K-12 students. 3) AB 1360 clarifies law for charter schools on non-discriminatory admissions policies, and due process rights of students suspended or expelled. 4) AB 1176 lifts the one-hour restriction per school day on high school equivalency preparation for persons confined in certain hospitals or correctional institutions. 5) AB 90 CalGang database moratorium and due process protections. 6) SB 190 ends juvenile administrative fees. 7) SB 395 addresses custodial interrogations: juveniles. 8) AB 1008 bans the box. 9) AB 450 protects undocumented workers against ICE worksite raids. 10) Advanced several provisions of AB 1114 the Reentry Workforce Training Program bill through Budget Act, strengthening integration of community based organizations into program, expanding eligibility to people on parole, and securing \$1.5 million in investment. 11) AB 1111 addresses the Breaking Barriers to Employment Initiative. 12) AB 236 CalWORKs addresses housing assistance. 13) AB 507 requires a portion of the annual resource family training to support the case plans, goals, and needs of children in the resource family home. 14) AB 1384 recognizes the Trauma Recovery Center at San Francisco General Hospital as the State Pilot Trauma Recovery Center.
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions	The Aspen Forum for Community Solutions (AFCS) launched a new strategic planning process that will guide the transition of the Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund (OYIF) into the Opportunity Youth Forum (OYF). Over the past five years, the OYIF has grown into a powerful place-based national network of 24 communities that implement innovative strategies aimed at disrupting generations of siloed systems and programs to integrate systems (K-12, postsecondary, workforce) to better support educational attainment and career advancement of opportunity youth. In response to the growing demand for inclusion into the national OYIF learning community, AFCS is identifying strategies for including new rural, tribal, and urban communities and launching new efforts, in addition to lifting up learnings in new areas that advance the field. The transition of the OYIF into the Opportunity Youth Forum will reflect this expansion of our network and the broadening of our focus. The OYF will continue to support community grantees, as well as layer in new initiatives that explore and scale specific aspects of pathways (Pathways to Careers Fund, Youth Entrepreneurship Fund), deepen our youth leadership and engagement efforts (Fund for Youth Connectivity) and/or expand our work into new areas, such as our emerging efforts to conduct an international landscape analysis to understand the global opportunity youth landscape and infuse a global lens into our opportunity youth efforts. This transition will be underpinned by our core values of equity and social, racial, gender and economic justice that will continue to support collaborative solutions that are rooted in an equity frame, are designed with the most vulnerable youth in mind, and seek to disrupt the impacts of institutional racism and/or reduce racial and gender inequities in access to opportunity.

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Best Buy	By 2020, Best Buy has committed to helping 1 million underserved teens annually be prepared for the tech-reliant jobs of the future. This includes the expansion of Best Buy Teen Tech Centers from 11 now to more than 60, as well as the expansion of our Geek Squad Academy and Career Pathways programs. In addition, Best Buy will increase the number of local grants provided to support tech training and career readiness programs for teens from underserved communities. For more information, visit corporate.bestbuy.com/community- relations-overview.	
Center for Law and Social Policy	We launched new policy work to help states strengthen and/or transform their Medicaid, nental health, and human services policies to promote high-quality mental health for youth/young adults. This reflects the urgency of these issues for low-income young people, he opportunity for major improvements as a result of the Affordable Care Act and particularly Medicaid expansion. This work started with talking with young adults about how hey define positive mental health and their challenges. https://www.clasp.org/blog/go- hroughs-get-through-mental-health-experiences-young-adults-poverty	
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	Our new partnership and train-the-trainer for the Fresh Tracks program, a new cross-cultural outdoor leadership and opportunity initiative for indigenous and urban youth.	
Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund	Summer Jobs Connect, generously supported by Citi Foundation, is a program that integrates banking access into Summer Youth Employment Programs. In 2017 alone, the thirteen SJC city programs together connected 40,000 youth to direct deposits for their paychecks, and provided financial education to 115,000 participants across 13 city programs.	
Cities United	1) Helped the BMOC table in Buffalo build out their Youth Leadership Councils. They will work with 100 young BMOC over the next year to build capacity for organizations and create a policy agenda. 2) Supported a network of young leaders who serve as youth facility helping our partner cities create better strategies to engage young leaders.	
Collective Shift	With the support of our partners, LRNG provided more than 128,000 learning experiences and more than 18,000 digital badges to opportunity youth across 9 cities. Over 50% of the youth who completed a playlist on LRNG were offered summer employment.	
The Corps Network	Last year our 135+ Corps and 25,000 Corpsmembers accomplished: 14.6 million pounds of waste recycled; 2.3 million square feet of community space improved; 1.6 million acres of wildlife habitat improved and made accessible; 1.5 million trees planted; 365,000 acres of invasive species removed; 28,000 acres of fire fuel reduced; 22,000 miles of multi-use trails constructed and improved; 20,000 low-income homes weatherized/audited; 16,000 recreation facilities improved; 8,200 acres of erosion, landslide, and flood prevention; 2,600 miles of fish and waterway habitat restored; 500 wildfires and disasters responded to; and 190 historic structures preserved.	
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	Convened local representatives from banks and credit unions with workforce development professionals to provide access to safe, affordable accounts at insured financial institutions.	

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Forum for Youth Investment/ Opportunity Youth Network	On behalf of the Opportunity Youth Network, the Forum for Youth Investment published the <i>Opportunity Youth Playbook: A Guide to Reconnecting Boys and Young Men of Color to Education and Employment.</i> The playbook was a collaborative effort, collecting feedback from OYN members and our partners across the Opportunity Youth and Boys and Men of Color fields. The playbook provides those leading efforts for BMOC a central location to access promising practices, strategies, and resources that will help their communities' direct supports to Opportunity Youth, who have distinct talents and needs and require dedicated strategies beyond those targeted at BMOC more generally. In partnership with CLASP and YouthBuild USA, the Opportunity Youth Network launched the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign: Unleashing Limitless Potential</i> , calling on Congress to invest in America's future by funding 1 million bridges to meaningful education, training, service and employment opportunities each year for 16- to 24-year-olds who are not in school or work.	
FSG	FSG published research about best practices for retaining front line employees and launched Impact Hiring Innovation Labs to support employers in implementing these practices and analyzing the ROI of their efforts.	
Gap Inc.	This Way Ahead, Gap Inc.'s paid internship program for opportunity youth, expanded to 300 Gap, Old Navy, and Banana Republic stores across 12 cities.	
Gateway to College National Network	The Gateway to College National Network launched PDX Bridge, a citywide initiative in Portland, OR, with more than two dozen partners to support youth who have been in foster care, experienced homelessness, or have been in the juvenile justice system with supported pathways to college.	
Georgetown Center on Poverty & Inequality	The Georgetown Center on Poverty & Inequality began work on a national youth employment strategy report, which synthesizes and builds on existing work, to be published in 2018.	
Goodwill Industries International	Goodwill is joining forces with Google to enhance and expand digital skills training and credentialing available via local Goodwill organizations.	
Grads of Life	1) Grads of Life released its new PSA campaign, in collaboration with the Ad Council, and to date have received over \$90M in donated media. One component of the new campaign is the 7 Second Resume—a short, seven second video in which real Opportunity Youth highlight qualities they have acquired through life experience that add to their value as employees. 2) In partnership with Accenture and Harvard Business School, Grads of Life released <i>Dismissed by Degrees</i> , a research report that illuminates the hidden costs of degree inflation for employers and highlights innovative employers who are creating new types of talent pipelines, including for Opportunity Youth (www.gradsoflife.org/dismissed-by-degrees). 3) Grads of Life launched a Talent Solutions practice, working with employers in the hospitality and logistics industries to help bring OY into their talent stream. At the public kick-off to its hospitality sector work, on October 30, Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta and American Hotel & Lodging Association CEO Katherine Lugar announced a \$500K grant to introduce 1,000 OY to hospitality jobs, in partnership with Grads of Life.	

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iFoster	iFoster Jobs Program was selected for formal evaluation as a promising program for foster youth employment by the US Department for Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.	
Institute for Educational Leadership	Implementation of its mentoring programs: Ready to Achieve Mentoring Program and Right Turn Career Focused Mentoring Program for OY with disabilities, in transition from foster care, and in reentry from juvenile justice.	
International Youth Foundation	The International Youth Foundation's Re)Connecting Youth initiative, supported by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, documented effective programs globally that have demonstrated success in addressing youth disconnection. Efforts have focused on four thematic areas: social-emotional learning, youth as assets, creative outreach and recruitment, and employer engagement. IYF also facilitated learning exchanges between youth-serving organizations in the U.S. and programs in Brazil and Mexico with the goal of fostering shared learning and the adaptation of effective practices.	
Jobs for the Future	Solidification of effective Back on Track partnerships and programming in more than a dozen communities through Opportunity Works, Casey LEAP, and other initiatives, which are yielding strong outcomes for opportunity youth; completion of implementation evaluation of Opportunity Works by Urban Institute.	
Measure of America	Published 4th report on Disconnected Youth: http://www.measureofamerica.org/disconnected-youth/	
National Job Corps Association	Secured more than 200 congressional signatures, including from dozens of Republicans, in support of funding for services to opportunity youth and opposing efforts by the administration to reduce existing capacity to serve this population.	
National League of Cities/ Reengagement Network	The National League of Cities is a Hub for a Reengagement Network of 20 local sites plus state networks in Washington & Colorado. They developed a self-report survey and have collected data from sites for the past three years. Sites contacted 55,000+ youth, placed 12,300, and helped 5,500 persist for a stick rate of 71%. They continue to offer technical assistance, tools and guidance to programs on the ground assisting opportunity youth. They are in the process of assisting new sites to develop in Montgomery County, MD, Milwaukee, WI, and Jacksonville, FL.	
National Network for Youth	National Network for Youth's advocacy ensured level funding for programs serving youth an young adults at risk of and experiencing homelessness, particularly the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Act. The US Department of Health and Human Services released the final rule for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, which incorporated key recommendations made by the National Network for Youth.	
National Youth Employment Coalition	In 2017 NYEC broadened and strengthened our membership, focusing especially on organizations not on the coasts. Through our webinars, emerging-practice calls, and policy calls, NYEC has been working to ensure that its members are up to date on the best work happening in the field and Washington, DC. NYEC hosted convenings on better connecting the workforce development and juvenile justice systems and on improving a school district's employability-skills curriculum. NYEC's Annual Forum was also our largest in several years.	

Opportunity Youth United and the National Council of Young Leaders	Opportunity Youth United — which is sponsored by 16 national organizations serving opportunity youth, and is led by the 20 members of National Council of Young Leaders who represent those organizations —organized a civic engagement summit in Philadelphia for about 500 youth from around the state of Pennsylvania, and organized eleven ten Community Action Teams (CATs) around the country that are sponsored by local "Anchor Organizations" who mobilize other organizations and young leaders in local civic engagement Council members met with Senators and their representatives on Capitol Hill as part of the Reconnecting Youth Campaign, securing a couple of champions to support investments in speak on the behalf of bridge programs for Opportunity Youth. They also mobilized a voter registration campaign in CAT communities for low-income young adults. They updated and continue to promote their policy platform: Recommendations to Increase Opportunity and Decrease Poverty in America (bit.ly/OYUrecs).
Partners for Education at Berea College	Partners for Education at Berea College was awarded Federal Promise Neighborhood funds by the U.S. Department of Education for the Knox Promise Neighborhood (2017-2021). The cradle-to-career initiative will serve more than 10,000 students, offering early childhood development programs, wellness and safety activities, family engagement programming within schools, college and career exploration and arts integration for academic support.
Root Cause	Root Cause analyzed and mapped the full ecosystem of key factors that impact the ability of opportunity youth to progress along a path to economic wellbeing, including public systems, employers, direct service programs, systemic barriers, advocacy organizations, funders, intermediaries/networks, and media. The effort included a compilation of available data and evidence around each factor. This ecosystem mapping can be applied to any issue area (e.g. education and economic security), and provides a holistic and rigorous foundation that can be used to strengthen many types of planning and collaborative efforts at the local or national level.
Story For All	Designed Opportunity Youth storytelling and leadership initiative to support narrative change, policy reform and youth-led advocacy.
US Dept of Health and Human Services: HRSA/MCHB	HRSA/MCHB The US Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)/Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) are working on strategies for all youth to have high quality health check-ups that help them address health issues.
US Dept of Health and Human Services: Office of Adolescent Health	The US Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Adolescent Health provided accurate data and helpful resources to youth-serving organizations, professionals, and family members through the Office of Adolescent Health's website and through its Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow initiative (TAG).
US Federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs	The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs maintained the www.youth.gov website, a one-stop shop for resources and information regarding federal programming and funding for young people ages 10-24.

United Way Worldwide	United Way Worldwide officially partnered with McKinsey Social Initiative to support Generation. Generation puts young adults (ages 18-29) through a training program for in- demand jobs in 14 trades and professions, and then places them in jobs after graduation. United Ways in 3 US cities have partnered on Generation training programs: Atlanta, Houston, and San Francisco.	
Urban Alliance	Urban Alliance served a record number of youth last year, and has expanded its signature youth employment programming for high school students at risk of becoming disconnected from school or work to Fairfax County, VA and Montgomery County, MD, with scouting in progress for expansion to a new region in 2018. The results of a 6-year, randomized controlled trial of our program's impact by Urban Institute were released, showing statistically significant results for both college attendance and soft skills retention.	
Young Invincibles	Young Invincibles led a broad push for expanding apprenticeship strategies to reach Opportunity Youth. Recent accomplishments include partnering with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to lead roundtables with Opportunity Youth that directly informed the state's youth apprenticeship pilot program, and passed apprenticeship legislation in New York that places an explicit emphasis on Opportunity Youth.	
YouthBuild USA	YouthBuild USA helped to launch the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> : Unleashing Limitless Potential with the Opportunity Youth Network, CLASP, and other organizations, to build out a larger collective advocacy effort to expand government resources to increase education and workforce bridges to reconnection for Opportunity Youth.	

# UPCOMING PLANS

#### Upcoming Plans: Launching or Expanding Place Based Initiatives

	In 2017, AFCS released additional RFPs for the Pathways to Careers Fund, which builds
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (AFCS)	on the work of the OYIF and 100,000 Opportunities Initiative Demonstration Cities and seeks to create, accelerate, and expand innovative career pathways to improve job placement and retention for Opportunity Youth. The fund will provide resources to youth-serving community based organizations in each of the five demonstration cities to develop and document pathways that support training, education, and transition to employment, as well as retention and ongoing career growth and learning, for Opportunity Youth. The fund will support programs that partner with employers to articulate and link education and/or training with successful employment outcomes in order to create new knowledge and advance the field's ability to better serve Opportunity Youth. Additionally, AFCS launched two efforts in the emerging portfolio of grants titled <i>Radical Possibilities: Youth Voice, Engagement and Leadership in the OYIF.</i> The first set of grants in this effort, Fund for Youth Connectivity, seeks to increase youth voice through the use of technology, with a subset of communities in the OYIF receiving grants to provide local opportunity youth with technology and training, to document youth stories of driving local change. The second set of grants, the Youth Entrepreneurship Fund, seeks to integrate youth entrepreneurship pathways into a subset of communities in order to understand, scale, and disseminate strategies that work in designing pipelines into microbusiness ownership and careers that combine entrepreneurial education, skills-building, and tools for Opportunity Youth.
Best Buy	Best Buy is expanding its Best Buy Teen Tech Center locations nationwide to more than 60, and is increasing its Geek Squad Academy locations to 50.
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	The Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute is rolling out its Fresh Tracks regional training and partnership.
Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund	Summer Jobs Connect funding opportunity to be announced 11/16.
	Opportunity Youth Service Initiative: The Corps Network will be expanding, and enrolling nearly 1,000, new Corps members in our AmeriCorps Opportunity Youth Service Initiative (OYSI).
	Expanding Apprenticeships: We will be working to expand Corps' current registered apprenticeship programs to additional Corps throughout the country, as well as developing new apprenticeship and work-based learning pathways.
The Corps Network	Digital Badges System: The Corps Network, in partnership with Service Year Alliance, will be piloting at Corps around the country a new digital badges and credential system to capture the competencies and learning that takes place during a term of service in a Corps that can be used for resumes and hiring.
	Prior Learning Credit and Accreditation: The Corps Network will be expanding its focus on Corps prior learning credit for general terms of service and higher education accreditation of specific Corps curriculum and credentials.
Goodwill Industries International	Goodwill is joining forces with Google to launch the Goodwill Digital Career Accelerator.

#### Upcoming Plans: Launching or Expanding Place Based Initiatives

	Crade of Life will be piloting the development of OV talent pipelines for been its life
Grads of Life	Grads of Life will be piloting the development of OY talent pipelines for hospitality employers in Baltimore, Washington D.C., Los Angeles and Chicago (the latter two with Leaders Up). Grads of Life will be launching a second set of sector level pilots with logistics employers, in markets TBD. Grads of Life is testing an industry-based approach that can scale via associations.
iFoster	Southern California, Bay Area, Sacramento Region, New York City, Northern Nevada.
Institute for Educational Leadership	Launch of an apprenticeship program for youth focused on youth development and leadership.
Jobs for the Future	Scaling of Back on Track pathways in Opportunity Works communities. Expanding work with OY with a high school credential who need pathways into occupational training programs.
National League of Cities/Reengagement Network	Communities in Schools in Harrisburg and Collaboration Council in Montgomery County are preparing to launch reengagement efforts, with advice from NLC and other reengagement network sites. New or expanded reengagement efforts in San Antonio, TX; Harrisburg, PA; San Jose, CA; Nashville, TN.
Opportunity Youth United and the National Council of Young Leaders	OYU Community Action Teams are located in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, New Orleans, Phoenix, Los Angeles, Sacramento, Seattle, and Chicago. New sites are under discussion in Greenville, MS, Oakland, CA, and others.
Partners for Education at Berea College	Partners for Education will implement new and maintain existing programming in the Knox Promise Neighborhood, launch a new Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) program serving approximately 6,000 students in Eastern Kentucky, and establish an Upward Bound program in Pineville, Kentucky. Existing programs will continue efforts to improve educational outcomes of children and young adults in Appalachia.
Root Cause	Root Cause will flesh out a more rigorous place-based framework through its intermediary role in several city and county communities. The framework accounts for local population figures and demographics, geographic distribution across the city/county, major systems, the service provider landscape, access to services and transportation, community engagement, and evidence of effectiveness, all leading to quantitative projections of results. This work aims to help place-based collaborative efforts increase their strategic focus and potential to achieve concrete results.
Story For All	Oakland and National
United Way Worldwide	In 2018, expanding Generation to United Ways in at least 4 cities and 150 local United Ways will host AmeriCorps members.
Urban Alliance	Urban Alliance, currently serving youth in Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Chicago, and Northern Virginia, will be bringing our High School Internship Program to a fifth region in 2018.
YouthBuild USA	Launching a new coalition of YouthBuild programs that work in or with community colleges to share best practices and collaborate on policy ideas to help get more OY into higher education.

### Upcoming Plans: Technical Assistance

100,000 Opportunities Initiative	More one-on-one consulting and sharing among employers on best practices working with communities.
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions	The Opportunity Youth Forum will continue to convene community grantee partners, support the OYF Site Leads and 100,000 Opportunities Initiatives Demonstration Cities Communities of Practice, and launch the Youth Entrepreneurship Fund grantee Community of Practice.
Center for Law and Social Policy	Policy/Practice Related to WIOA and Career Pathways. Cross Systems Partnerships and Braiding and Blending Funds Through the CCRY Network
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	Currently providing technical assistance to the Cheyenne River Youth project to help them develop a youth recognition program.
Cities United	Continuing to work with mayors/cities to build their capacity to engage young leaders as part of the solution to reducing/preventing community violence.
Collective Shift	Look to expand access to LRNG membership across the United States as they end their closed beta testing this year.
The Corps Network	Moving Forward Together Initiative: With support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Corps Network has developed an initiative to expand career exposure and increase employment in conservation and resource management for Opportunity Youth. TCN will also explore unconscious bias and structural racism within our own organization, our member Corps, and America's land management agencies. Accreditation of High Performing Corps: We will expand our accreditation program to ensure the highest standards of youth engagement, financial management and safety are adhered to for Corps around the country. Community-Based Projects Coalition: We are developing a new coalition that will identify project and workforce development best practices, and develop career pathways for Opportunity Youth working on local-based projects. Postsecondary Education and Training Community of Learning: We will be developing a new community of learning to expand our prior learning credit, accreditation, college and training partnerships, and postsecondary success strategies.
FSG	Facilitating Impact Hiring Innovation Labs for OY employers.
Gap Inc.	Working with other employers via FSG's Impact Hiring Innovation Labs initiative
Gateway to College National Network	The Gateway to College National Network launched an initiative for Gateway to College programs across the country that includes data coaching and professional development around college readiness and student advising. They are also providing training in multiple communities to implement a powerful curriculum grounded in identity-based motivation.
Goodwill Industries International	Goodwill sector skills academy; community college 101; career navigator train-the- trainer.

### Upcoming Plans: Technical Assistance

Grads of Life's Talent Solutions practice is working with AHLA, Hilton, IHG, Hyatt, Sodexo, Expeditors, Reddaway and McDonald's to help them develop OY talent pipelines.
IYF will work with exchange partners in Baltimore and New Orleans to pilot global practices relevant to their work. In early November, IYF will facilitate a targeted learning exchange between the Youth Empowerment Project (New Orleans, LA, USA) and Rede Cidadá (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) that aims to share Rede's employer engagement strategies and integration of movement and mindfulness techniques into its programming model.
Designing an effort focused on social enterprises with and for OY.
On-the-ground coaching provided to over a dozen communities through Opportunity Works, Casey LEAP, Houston Bridge to College and Career Success, and other initiatives.
NLC will have quarterly conference calls for reengagement professionals to share news of reengagement across the country.
Providing technical assistance to current and new Reengagement Network sites.
OYU is working with CIRCLE to develop a certification process in civic engagement to codify skills that will enhance employability. OYU is receiving technical assistance on nonpartisan voter engagement from national nonprofits. If they can obtain funds, they will hold a national summit focused on best practices for police/community relations. Some of their Community Action Teams have experience generating improvements that have lowered arrest rates dramatically. OYU is expanding its national core group of young leaders to 100, who will be convened in 2018. They welcome nominations for local Opportunity Youth Community Leaders who are doing great things in their communities. In the 100K Communities, OYU members are available to offer advice to corporations hiring OY. They are also hosting the Year Up 5th Toy Drive.
Professional development for educators and school administrators about youth leadership and school discipline
Providing technical assistance for policy, impact, and communications work to all local United Ways.
Providing TA to state adolescent health programs to assist their efforts in working with other state agencies, health care providers, and communities in order to improve access to and the quality of health care for youth.
Expanding their TA on engaging Opportunity Youth in youth apprenticeship programs to businesses and government agencies in Illinois, and will likely expand that work in other regions in the months ahead.

### Upcoming Plans: Youth Voice/Youth Engagement

100,000 Opportunities Initiative	Youth involvement in employer convenings to provide better insight to company practices and policies related to hiring and retention within the workplace.
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions	Aspen will continue to convene youth leaders across OYF in a peer-led community of practice; co-design with youth leaders the youth leadership tracks for the OYF place-based convening in South King County, WA and the national convening in Aspen, CO; and partner with OYU on the implementation of the Fund for Youth Connectivity, which will amplify the voices of Opportunity Youth through the use of media and technology.
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	Expanding the Generation Indigenous National Native Youth Network, launched by President Obama.
Cities United	Developing a Young Leaders Fellowship they hope to launch in July 2018. It will support 12 young leaders from around the country in a 10 month fellowship.
Collective Shift	Collective Shift is increasing youth engagement on the platform and is providing more opportunities for youth voices and accomplishments to be showcased.
The Corps Network	Corpsmembers of the Year: At the Corps Network's national conference, we will feature our Corpsmembers of the year, most of whom are Opportunity Youth, and celebrate their accomplishments. They will also be engaged and highlighted throughout the year and assist with communications and advocacy campaigns. Corpsmember Youth Council: We will be working to develop a new youth council that will help to lift up youth voice in the network, inform policy and communications, and our Moving Forward Together Initiative. National Council of Young Leaders: We will continue to support our Councilmembers Philan Tree, and Timothy Gunn, and encourage their participation and communication efforts through the NCYL.
FSG	Publishing Youth Perspectives on Employer Best Practices research.
Grads of Life	Continuing to build its collection of 7 Second Resumes (7seconds.gradsoflife.org) and is looking for training providers who would be interested in offering this opportunity to their program participants.
iFoster	iFoster Jobs - Alumni Program is launching.
Institute for Educational Leadership	A leadership program for emerging youth leaders with disabilities.
National Network for Youth	Our National Youth Advisory Council has expanded to incorporate new members that help to develop and inform NN4Y's policy advocacy and practice recommendations on an ongoing basis.

### Upcoming Plans: Youth Voice/Youth Engagement

Opportunity Youth United and the National Council of Young Leaders	The National Council of Young Leaders has produced its <i>Recommendations to</i> <i>Increase Opportunity and Decrease Poverty in America</i> , and a <i>White Paper on Civic</i> <i>Engagement</i> . As a result, its members are invited to speak or lead workshops at national gatherings wherever there is an interest in opportunity youth. Their members respond and inspire other young people while informing staff. They also attended the Year Up Summit.
Root Cause	Root Cause will be building its capacity to directly engage Opportunity Youth among a broader group of individuals and families, which is not common for organizations in an intermediary role, but they are nonetheless convinced that it is critical to informing their work.
Story For All	Supporting and providing training for a youth advisory council with real power.
US Dept. of Health and Human Services: HRSA/MCHB	State teams working on health care include youth, who share their ideas and wisdom from their experiences.
US Federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs	The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs are planning a convening on youth engagement strategies with experts from across the country in June 2018. This will lead to an issue brief highlighting best practices in youth engagement and strategies for integrating those into practice in federal youth programs.
Urban Alliance	Urban Alliance is expanding its Chicago program to bring workforce development training to younger students, and is launching alumni advisory boards to give UA youth a greater say in the organization's direction.
Young Invincibles	YI trains youth leaders across the country in core policy, advocacy, and leadership skills, and is launching five new youth advisory boards for its regional offices in the next 12 months.

#### Upcoming Plans: New Activities Related to Special Populations

Center for Law and Social Policy	Continued focused work on boys and men of color; and girls and young women of color		
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	Native LGBT/Two Spirit youth		
Collective Shift	Opportunity Youth		
Gateway to College National Network	Rural youth		
Goodwill Industries International	Returning citizens (youth, young adult and adult)		
Jobs for the Future	Youth transitioning from juvenile justice system expanding existing work		
National Youth	NYEC, in conjunction with YAP Inc. and the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is working on a report identifying better ways for workforce boards and juvenile justice agencies to work together.		
National Youth Employment Coalition	NYEC is also doing a major project for the federal Rehabilitation Services Administration's Youth Technical Assistance Center (Y-TAC) to help vocational- rehabilitation agencies better connect with workforce development boards and providers serving opportunity youth.		
US Dept. of Health and Human Services: Office of Adolescent Health	Workforce development professionals, parents		
Young Invincibles	Young parents		

#### Upcoming Plans: Data and Research

Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (AFCS)	AFCS will continue to engage Equal Measure as the third-party evaluator of OYF initiatives.	
Best Buy	Best Buy will be conducting longitudinal tracking of youth to measure the impact of their experience at the Best Buy Teen Tech Centers and the Career Pathways programming that they receive.	
Center for Law and Social Policy	Focus groups related to mental health work	
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	A new study by the US Department of Justices' National Institute of Justice of youth perception of school climate and safety at the Gila River and Salt River tribes.	
Collective Shift	Extending their data around impact and connect this to demographic data that can be utilized by our organizational partners.	
Goodwill Industries International	Piloting mission impact measures.	
Grads of Life	Through pilot work and tool development they will do more research on the business case for Opportunity Youth talent pipelines with the goal of developing ROI proof points for employers.	
iFoster	iFoster Jobs Program is undergoing a formal evaluation by Chapin Hall and Urba Institute on behalf of the US Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families.	
International Youth Foundation	In November, team members will travel to Buenos Aires, Argentina to document the work of two organizations, Pescar and Doncel, with a focus on their training methodologies and employer engagement strategies. IYF will continue to document additional global practices.	
Measure of America	Measure of America will be launching its 5 <sup>th</sup> report on youth disconnection in the Spring of 2018.	
National Job Corps Association	With funding from the Laura and John Arnold Foundation and the Overdeck Family Foundation, the NJCA is supporting an evaluation by Harvard University, Princeton University, and the University of Michigan of the use of simple cognitive behavioral therapy techniques to mitigate behavioral incidents and improve employment outcomes, such as job retention.	
National League of Cities/Reengagement Network	Annual Reengagement Census, 2016-17 school year will begin in 2018.	

#### Upcoming Plans: Data and Research

Opportunity Youth United and the National Council of Young Leaders	CIRCLE at Tufts is tracking voter turnout.	
Urban Alliance	Urban Alliance is in year two of their second randomized controlled trial to measure impact across all regions, funded by a US Department of Education's Investing in Innovation grant ("i3"). They will also begin looking for ways to incorporate lessons learned during their first randomized control trial evaluation of their program.	
US Dept of Health and Human Services: HRSA/MCHB	Their program analyzes data about young people's access to and use of health care, as well as the quality of the care they receive.	
US Dept of Health and Human Service: Office of Adolescent Health	National and state data on teens; grant program evaluations.	

### Upcoming Plans: Publications Being Released

Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions	AFCS will release four publications in late 2017-early 2018 that will lift up a range of collaborative strategies being implemented by OYIF grantee partners. These publications will include 1) Including All Voices: Achieving opportunity youth collaboration success through youth and adult engagement; 2) Opportunity Lost? Maximizing large federal funds to support opportunity youth; 3) Shift Happens: The Opportunity Youth Incentive Fund accelerates systems change; and 4) equity- focused collaborative strategies in OYIF.	
Center for Native American Youth at the Aspen Institute	The <i>State of Native Youth 2017</i> annual report, released 11/15.	
Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund	Summer Jobs Connect: Where Strong Financial Futures Begin to be released on Nov 16 in DC.	
Cities United	Releasing Strategic Guide for Mayors on Preventing/Reducing Community Violence March/April 2018.	
FSG	Publishing Youth Perspectives on Employer Best Practices research, Nov. 2018.	
Gap Inc.	Case study about This Way Ahead to be published by Jobs for the Future in December 2017.	
Georgetown Center on Poverty & Inequality	National youth employment strategy report, which synthesizes and builds on existing work, to be published in 2018.	
Grads of Life	In late November, as a companion to <i>Dismissed by Degrees</i> , Grads of Life and Accenture will release <i>Workforce Wins: The Case for Opportunity Youth Talent</i> <i>Pipelines</i> , which dives deeply into the business benefits that employers who have invested in building OY talent pipelines have seen, including increased retention, more efficient recruiting and improved diversity and highlights the steps companies can take to develop their own OY talent pipelines.	
Jobs for the Future	Making Apprenticeship Work for Opportunity Youth released in October; unnamed briefs on scaling strategies in use in Opportunity Works sites.	
National League of Cities/ Reengagement Network	NLC will release its Annual Reengagement Census for the 2016-2017 school year in May 2018. This will analyze and discuss self-reported data from the reengagement network to get a better understanding of Opportunity Youth reengagement in education and workforce programs. NLC added a new resource on Cities Setting Goals for Opportunity Youth and how other cities can set goals. Forthcoming: Policy brief on calculating return on investment.	
National Network for Youth	The National Network for Youth will be releasing a white paper on trafficking and runaway and homeless youth. They will be releasing practice briefs on implementing NN4Y's Proposed System to End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness.	

### Upcoming Plans: Publications Being Released

Opportunity Youth United and National Council of Young Leaders	Writing and doing video blogs for Grads of Life. If funds are available, developing a handbook for improving police/community relations.	
Story For All	Listen: The Defeat of Oppression by Expression chapter in Creating Social Change through Art, to be released by Palgrave Macmillan in November 2017	
Urban Alliance	Urban Alliance will be publishing a policy brief focused on what schools, philanthropists, and policymakers can do to encourage youth employment.	
US Dept of Health and Human Services: Office of Adolescent Health	Updated Think Act Grow Playbook and Toolkit.	
Young Invincibles	Upcoming reports include a student higher ed accountability agenda (Nov. 2017), research on the impact of digital advertisements on young adult access to preventive health care (Dec. 2017), and initial research on expanding diversity in youth apprenticeship programs (Dec. 2017).	

#### **Upcoming Plans: Communications Campaigns**

100,000 Opportunities Initiative	Launch of a digital platform for Opportunity Youth to receive career counseling as well as job listings nationwide		
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions (AFCS)	AFCS will run communications efforts to support the release of its whitepapers and briefs.		
The Corps Network	Moving Forward Together Initiative: Through this initiative we will be developing blogs and other stories to develop a foundation of knowledge on which to examine racism in the United States and our own connections to institutional racism. We will provide tools and education to our staff, staff at our member Corps, youth enrolled in our Corps, and staff at America's federal resource management agencies to make all parties more aware and better prepared to address bias and structural racism. 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC): We will be rolling out a new communications plan to highlight modern-Corps and the wide variety of work they accomplish, effectiveness of our partnerships with federal and state agencies, and diverse youth we engage and help develop into leaders. A Celebration of Stewardship in the Great Outdoors: During Great Outdoors Month in June, we will have a week celebrating Corpsmember's contributions to stewardship of the Great Outdoors featuring Corpsmember recognition, events, and a national day of service.		
FSG	Employer communications plan being launched in February 2018.		
Grads of Life	Will continue to work with the Ad Council to distribute the Grads of Life PSA across media channels throughout the United States, including our blog platform on Forbes.com, GradsofLifeVoice which has had over 10M visitors (https://www.forbes.com/sites/gradsoflife/).		
iFoster	Hire A Foster Youth.		
International Youth Foundation	The (Re)Connecting Youth newsletter will highlight the promising practices of opportunity youth-serving organizations around the globe as well as offer resources and toolkits to inform practitioners, policy makers, and funders in the U.S.		
Jobs for the Future	Dissemination of lessons learned and accomplishments of Opportunity Works.		
Opportunity Youth United	Will do a communications campaign on importance of youth voting in 2018. Helping Atlanta OYU Community Action Team with bringing awareness of the mayoral election.		
SparkAction	Facilitating the Reconnecting Youth Campaign's communications workgroup.		
Story For All	Promoting local re-engagement strategies through storytelling and presentation of impact data; collaborating with SparkAction on the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> .		
United Way Worldwide	nited Way Worldwide Promoting Open Enrollment 5 in partnership with Young Invincibles. Quarter 2 communications campaigns will focus on Youth Success and include blog posts, s media and traditional media campaigns. Publicly launching 2028 goals, which includes a focus on jobs.		

### Upcoming Plans: Communications Campaigns

US Dept of Health and Human Services: Office of Adolescent Health	Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow (TAG). New website sections on adolescent development, positive youth development. New web content on successful program strategies. New TAG Talks videos on 1) the changing transition to adulthood, 2) adolescent substance use, addiction, and treatment, and 3) medical home model for adolescent health care.
Young Invincibles	We run traditional and digital media pushes focused on elevating youth voice in key issues related to health care, higher education, and jobs. Tactics include publishing youth op-eds and prepping young adults for media interviews, and weekly Millennial Monday Twitter chats.

#### Upcoming Plans: Policy and Advocacy Activities

Alliance for Boys and Men of Color	The Alliance for Boys and Men of Color is pursuing five campaigns in 2018: 1) Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline; 2) Justice Reinvestment; 3) Eliminating Barriers to Employment; 4) Expanding Healing Supports for Trauma and Interrupt the Cycles of Violence; and 5) Improving Police Accountability	
Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions	AFCS and OYF will continue to support the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> .	
Forum for Youth Investment/Opportunity Youth Network	The Opportunity Youth Network, in partnership with CLASP and YouthBuild USA, is co-facilitating the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> .	
iFoster	Bill HR 2060 / S 885: Improved Employment Outcomes for Foster Youth	
Institute for Educational Leadership	Continuing to play an active role in the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> .	
National Job Corps Association	In response to reduced efforts by the Department to enroll students in Job Corps the National Job Corps Association is reaching out to community partners nationwide to spread the word that there are thousands of open Job Corps slots across the country in which opportunity youth could enroll.	
National League of Cities/Reengagement Network	NLC will be working on the communications team for the <i>Reconnecting Youth</i> <i>Campaign</i> to increase federal appropriations for Opportunity Youth.	
National Network for Youth	The National Network for Youth will be launching efforts to secure additional cosponsors for the reauthorization of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA). Following the release of Chapin Hall's Voices of Youth Count report, NN4Y will continue enhanced advocacy on RHYA reauthorization, funding on youth and young adult homelessness, and other legislation and administrative changes that will improve systems for youth and young adults at risk of or experiencing homelessness.	
National Youth Employment Coalition	NYEC developed a district-advocacy toolkit to empower members to connect with Members of Congress locally. We have also continued to connect with key offices on Capitol Hill, including through our work with the Campaign to Invest in America's Workforce and the Campaign to Reconnect Youth	
Opportunity Youth United and the National Council of Young Leaders	OYU is actively supporting the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> , <i>Unleashing Limitless</i> <i>Potential</i> , led by OYN, YouthBuild USA, and CLASP. The National Council prioritized expanding bridge programs to one million a year when they updated their recommendations in 2016. OYU hosted and attended the United Way and Atlanta Elections.	
Root Cause	Root Cause will dive more deeply into messaging and narrative around Opportunity Youth, particularly considering audiences with opposing viewpoints and political leaning.	
Story For All	Narrative change and data collection regarding OY in the Bay Area and Nationally.	

#### Upcoming Plans: Policy and Advocacy Activities

United Way Worldwide	Continuing to support and advocate for funding for national service programs and investment in high quality education and job training programs. The United Way Center on Human Trafficking and Slavery will continue to coordinate the Generation Freedom campaign to combat human trafficking in the US. United Way Worldwide will continue meeting with Department of Transportation and Department of Labor to raise job priorities as part of any infrastructure legislation.	
Young Invincibles	Young Invincibles is expanding its apprenticeship campaign focused on improving access to apprenticeships for underrepresented populations. They will continue building creative tools for online advocacy. They are also launching new work focused on access to college for justice-involved youth. College affordability, accessibility, and success will continue to be top priorities. They will also continue to prioritize their federal healthcare defense work.	
YouthBuild USA	YouthBuild USA will continue to grow and expand the <i>Reconnecting Youth Campaign</i> with its colleagues.	

#### Schedule of Upcoming Events, Meetings and Convenings

2017			
November 15	National Job Corps Association	Job Corps Leadership Conference	Washington, DC
November 16	Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund and the Citi Foundation	Summer Jobs Connect Convening: Lessons about integrating banking into youth employment programs. http://bit.ly/2lQwWPy	Washington, DC
November 29	Grads of Life	Meeting for training providers to share best practices for working with employers to build scalable solutions to bring OY in to their talent pipelines	New York City, NY
December 6-8	National League of Cities Reengagement Network, Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, and others.	NLC: Western Regional Reengagement Plus! Convening. https://s07.123signup.com/event/details/hftqc	Tacoma, WA,

	2018			
January-March (TBD)	Opportunity Youth United	National Convening of 100 OYU Community Leaders		
January 25	Opportunity Youth Network, CLASP and YouthBuild USA	Reconnecting Youth Campaign Quarterly Convening	Washington, DC	
February 11-14	The Corps Network	National Conference: The Trail Ahead	Washington, DC	
March	National League of Cities Reengagement Network	National Reengagement Plus! Convening	Philadelphia, PA	
March 19-20	National Network for Youth	2018 National Summit on Youth Homelessness: The Intersection of Policy and Practice <u>https://www.nn4youth.org/events/2018-summit/</u>	Washington, DC	
April 11-13	PolicyLink	Equity Summit	Chicago IL	
April 18-20	Forum for Youth Investment	Ready by 21 National Meeting	Palm Beach County, FL	
May 2	100,000 Opportunities Initiative	Employer Convening	TBD	
May 3	100,000 Opportunities Initiative	100,000 Opportunities Signature Hiring Event	Atlanta, GA	
May 14-17	Aspen Forum for Community Solutions/Jobs for the Future	Opportunity Youth Forum Spring 2018 Convening	South King County, WA	
Summer	Institute for Educational Leadership	Youth with Disabilities Leadership Forum	Washington, DC	
June	The Corps Network	Great Outdoors Month: A Celebration of Stewardship in the Great Outdoors	Washington, DC	
June	FSG Shared Value Initiative	Employer and ecosystem convening in collaboration with other business and society platform	TBD	
June 12-14	Jobs for the Future	JFF Summit, including opportunity youth tracks		
July	Best Buy	Teen Summit, a program of The Clubhouse Network	Boston, MA	
August 22	Cities United	5th Annual Convening	Knoxville, TN	
October 8-11	Aspen Forum for Community Solutions/JFF	Opportunity Youth Forum Fall 2018 Convening	Aspen, CO	

